



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Food Safety  
and Inspection  
Service

Washington, D.C.  
20250

MAY 7 2002

Mr. Greg Read  
Executive Manager, Exports and Food Policy  
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS)  
Edmund Barton Building  
GPO Box 858  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Australia

Dear Mr. Read:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) conducted an on-site audit of Australia's meat inspection system from August 2 through September 5, 2001. Enclosed is a copy of the final audit report. Comments by Australia on the draft final audit report have been included as Attachment "G" in the enclosed final audit report.

We appreciate the corrective actions taken by AQIS to address the inspection deficiencies noted during the audit. In addition, we acknowledge the improvements made by AQIS to prevent carcass contamination by urine spillage during the slaughtering of sheep.

If I can provide further information regarding this audit, please contact me by telephone (202-720-3781), facsimile (202-690-4040), or e-mail ([sally.stratmoen@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:sally.stratmoen@fsis.usda.gov)). You may also contact Richard F. Brown by telephone at (202) 690-2679, by fax at (202) 690-4719, or by e-mail at [richard.brown@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:richard.brown@fsis.usda.gov).

Sincerely,

Sally Stratmoen, Chief  
Equivalence Section  
International Policy Staff  
Office of Policy, Program Development  
and Evaluation

Enclosure